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Washington State
Employment Security Department
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in cooperation with the
Bureau of Labor Statistics
and the Employment and
Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Washington Labor Market

Volume 9, Number 8 September, 1984

HIGHLIGHTS

The jobless rate in Washington State fell below nine percent in August for the first time in nearly three years. During August, the percentage of unemployed persons in the state was 8.9 percent, compared to a revised July figure of 9.4 percent. (Data are not seasonally adjusted).

Although total employment slipped by 6,600 in August, the number of individuals classified as "unemployed" fell by 12,000. Most of this decline was due to a normal seasonal withdrawal from the labor force of school aged youth who had participated in the raspberry and strawberry harvests and worked in other temporary agricultural jobs.

August unemployment totals were hardly dented by a drop in public education payrolls of 2,800. Because these workers expect to return to their jobs when the new school year begins, the majority do not actively seek work during the interim, and as a consequence are not counted among the jobless.

With the exception of 1,300 new jobs in aerospace inspired by a resurgent domestic airline industry, all large payroll gains in August were due to seasonal hiring. Food processing (+1,600), construction trades (+1,600), retail trade (+1,200), and service industries (+2,300) led the seasonal upswing.

	Aug 1984* (Prel.)	July 1984* (Rev.)	Aug 1983
Civilian Labor Force	2,076.7	2,095.3	2,075.6
Total State Employment	1,892.6	1,899.2	1,866.5
Total Unemployment	184.1	196.1	209.1
State Unemployment Rate	8.9	9.4	10.1
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.5	9.2

*These data are alternative estimates which are more nearly comparable with data released in previous years than the official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates developed for Federal program purposes.

Although major labor force transitions last month were within seasonal norms, the decline in the state's jobless rate, of 0.5 of a percentage point, exceeded the average August drop. Over the past decade, the state unemployment rate has fallen by an average of 0.3 of a percentage point during August. The solid August performance this year indicates residual strength in the state employment recovery, even if the national jobless rate has reached a plateau.

The state's employment picture brightened in August despite a continuing recession in lumber and wood products, and a primary metals industry that is still hobbled by foreign competition. A bill passed by Congress allowing a partial turn back of Federal timber cutting contracts signed before the sharp drop in lumber prices, could halt the spate of recent layoffs and plant closures in the industry. Coupled with the temporary electricity rate discount provided to the region's aluminum companies, the immediate future seems brighter for two major sectors that have impeded the state's manufacturing recovery. The timber relief bill, however, still awaits Presidential approval.

On the national level, a drop in the prime lending rate from thirteen percent to 12.75 percent and an increase in the Index of Leading Economic Indicators, highlighted recent activities. Positive movement in the Index, following alarming declines in June and July, eased concerns about the possibility of another recession in mid 1985. The prime lending rate fell in response to a slowdown in business demand for credit, the failure of inflation to ignite, and a general cooling of the national economy. The perception that the economy has shifted into a phase of moderate expansion was supported by the preliminary estimate of third quarter gross national product (GNP), placing recent growth at an annual rate of 3.6 percent. In the first and second quarters, GNP grew at a torrid pace of 10.1 and 7.1 percent respectively.

Nationally, the (seasonally adjusted) unemployment rate held steady during August, consistent with other data signaling a slowdown. Over the past three quarters, the gap between the state and national (seasonally adjusted) jobless rates has narrowed. The difference is currently 2.0 percentage points, compared with 2.2 in the first quarter and 2.3 points in the second quarter of 1984. Chart #2, below, traces state and national jobless rates from the onset of the recession to the present, including the percentage point difference between the two statistics. (Monthly data in this chart have been seasonally adjusted and aggregated into quarters to smooth-out volatile monthly swings.)

CHART 1

CHART 2

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Aerospace hiring in response to a rise in demand from a revitalized airline industry, again offset losses in other manufacturing industries. A bill in Congress to allow buy backs of costly Federal timber cutting contracts and a conference with Latin American officials in Seattle to demonstrate the advantages of wood as a homebuilding material, were both aimed at providing relief for the region's timber industry. In the non-durable sector, a big jump in food processing jobs compensated for abnormally low seasonal hiring in June and July.

Durable Good Industries

Aerospace Hires 1,300

Aerospace spearheaded a better than normal August performance in durable goods hiring. Overall, durables manufacturing added 1,400 jobs during the month, with aerospace accounting for 1,300. Aerospace has been a consistent performer in an otherwise erratic state manufacturing recovery. The industry has boosted its payrolls by 5,000 since the end of 1983. If The Boeing Company reaches its own hiring expectations, at least 1,800 more jobs will be added by the industry before the end of 1984.

Airbus Breaks Into American Market

Although the long term outlook is still bright for aerospace, optimism in the industry was dampened slightly by a Pan American announcement that it will acquire more than $1 billion worth of jetliners from Airbus Industries, Boeings chief competitor in the commercial airline market. With 24 mid-sized jetliners still awaiting sale at Airbus' French assembly plant, the European consortium made significant price concessions in its bid to break Boeing's hold on the American market. While Airbus' transaction with Pan American may be a major breakthrough, aerospace analysts praised Boeing for refusing to slash its prices. Most industry analysts believe that the terms of the Pan American sale cannot be profitably duplicated by Airbus in the future.

The healthy August gain in aerospace was partially offset by another drop in lumber and wood products employment. Payrolls in the beleaguered industry fell by 500, compared to a usual August gain of 100 to 400 jobs. At mid-August lumber production in the Washington-Oregon coastal region was still ten percent below normal, reflecting low prices, high inventories, competition from Canadian imports, and a sluggish residential housing market.

With mortgage rates still too high for the average American family, a rebound in homebuilding is not on the horizon. Nationally, spending on construction of single family homes dipped 3.2 percent from July to August, while sales of existing homes in this category plunged 8.1 percent--the sharpest drop in a year.

Timber Looks to Congress and Foreign Markets for Relief

Help for lumber and wood products will need to come from another source. A bill recently passed by Congress may provide some relief. If President Reagan signs the measure, timber companies in the Pacific Northwest will be allowed to buy back a portion of their Federal contracts at a discount. The contracts had been negotiated before the dramatic drop in lumber prices four years ago. As a result, companies have been faced with contracts to cut timber at prices much higher than current or forseeable sales prices. The bill provides a sliding scale for buy out prices, based on the size and financial condition of the company. Industry officials say that failure to relieve companies of their obligations under the Federal contracts, would cause hundreds of additional layoffs and plant closures, with smaller timber companies being harmed the most.

In a joint venture by the public and private sectors to expand foreign markets for regional wood products, lumber producers, homebuilders, and trade representatives held a conference in Seattle with Latin American housing and finance officials. The major objective of the conference was to persuade Latin Americans that wood homes were cheaper, more durable, and more attractive than homes built with masonry and concrete, materials traditionally used in that part of the world.

Washington State Unaffected by Alcoa Cutback

In the primary metals sector, the Aluminum Company of American (ALCOA) announced another nationwide production cutback in response to persistently high inventories and low prices due to overproduction by debt-ridden third world nations. The cutback, however, is not expected to affect Washington State producers. Indeed, ALCOA said last month that it will re-start a potline at its Vancouver, Washington plant in October. The decision to open the potline was in response to a temporary electricity rate discount offered by the Bonneville Power Authority (BPA).

Steel Fabricator to Close at End of Year

Citing "low prices caused by cheap Japanese imports", officials of the Leckenby Company--Seattle's largest steel fabricator--said it will close its structural steel fabrication plant by the end of the year. The closure will affect 275 workers. Earlier, Leckenby employees had agreed to wage cuts in a last resort effort to save the company. Nationally, the Reagan administration proposed trade restraints aimed at lowering the foreign share of the domestic steel market by twenty-five percent. Rejecting an international trade commission (ITC) recommendation for outright import quotas on steel (and other commodities), the Administration said the import reduction would be accomplished through negotiations with foreign governments. While this approach means that the employment picture in metal products will remain gloomy, rejection of import quotas will save jobs in other domestic industries--such

as autos and homebuilding--which benefit from low priced steel and other cheap foreign commodities.

Machinery Resumes Upward Trend

A recent Department of Commerce survey confirmed that business still plans to boost investment by about fifteen percent over the next year, despite high interest rates. Continued strength in capital investment, even as consumers activity slows, will help keep the state's durable goods sector on the path of recovery. Heavy machinery in the state, which lost 400 jobs last month due to completion of a large contract at a major firm, resumed its upward trend by adding 300 jobs in August.

Nondurable Goods Industries

Food Processing Adds 1,600 Seasonal Workers

A seasonal jump of 1,600 workers in the food and kindred products industry highlighted August developments in nondurables manufacturing. The gain resulted from a combination of seasonal or other temporary conditions, including acquisition of a new contract by one firm and the return of furloughed workers at another company. A late harvest for certain crops postponed some seasonal hiring in food and kindred products, with the industry posting smaller than normal gains in June and July. The healthy August rise in food processing payrolls means that the industry has added 4,900 jobs since January, about normal for the January-to-August period of a typical year.

Boom in Desk Copiers Could Boost Paper Products Employment

After a steep rise in 1983 and the first half of 1984, production of paper products nationwide finally slowed over the past two months. The number of jobs in the state's paper products sector was unchanged during August, and has probably peaked for the year. Competitive price cutting in the sale of personal desk-top copiers is expected to spark another rise in the demand for paper products, with accompanying growth in payrolls. Rapid technological advancement in the industry, however, means that employment will not expanded at the same rate as production.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Surprising Strength in Construction Trades

Jobs in construction trades grew 1,600 during August. This is lower than normal for a non-recession year, but a good performance in light of the depressed residential housing market. High mortgage rates have taken their toll on this category of construction. Federal tax laws enacted in 1981, however, are helping maintain momentum in non-residential and apartment construction. The new tax rules, which provide for more rapid depreciation of commercial buildings, are helping offset the high cost of interest. Many current construction projects in this category were also financed before the upturn in lending rates. (The lead-time for financing of single family residential construction is much shorter.)

These factors have compensated for a depressed residential housing market, minimizing job losses in construction trades. Increased spending on public works by local governments, fueled by a recent hike in the gasoline tax, may have also provided a boost to construction payrolls.

"Back-to-School" Sales will Add Jobs in Retail Trade

The August rise in retail trade jobs (+1,200), fell short of seasonal expectations. Normally, this sector adds between 2,000 and 4,000 jobs at this time of year in response to patronage by vacationers and--later in the summer-to pre-school sales activity in department and apparel stores. The current shortfall may reflect the general retrenchment in consumer spending, following the record pace which initially sparked the recovery. Nationally, retail sales have declined for the past two months. A late August spurt in "back-to-school" consumer activity will likely boost retail trade employment in September.

New Incorporations Spark Hiring in Business Services

Employment in services jumped 2,300 in August, about average for this time of year. A major part of the seasonal gain derives from the late summer proliferation of fairs and carnivals across the state. Business services, which includes data processing consultants, employment agencies, advertising, and building maintenance, accounted for 700 of the additional August jobs in services. Employment in business services has grown steeply and steadily in the latter stages of the recovery. During a recession cost-conscious firms will cut contracted services, such as advertising, and then restore them in the late stages of recovery. Dunn & Bradstreet reports that new business incorporations in Washington State for the first four months of 1984 were 14.3 percent higher than for the same period one year ago. With many new companies on the scene and other firms partaking in the office automation revolution, there has been exceptional demand for business services.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK: THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

Interest Rates Still a Key Factor in Employment Outlook

The course of interest rates is still the key national variable in the state's employment outlook. A cut in the prime lending rate by major national banks ensures that job gains achieved in twenty months of recovery will at least be conserved during the remainder of 1984. A slight acceleration in the consumer price index (CPI) during August caused some alarm that inflation was beginning to spiral upward, in the fashion of recent recoveries and expansions. Still, the CPI rose last month at an annual rate of 6.2 percent, lower than at similar stages of the post 1970-71, 1974-75, and 1980 recessions. (The latest CPI data is provided in the table below.) Another positive sign for interest rate watchers is the absence of conditions that have ignited inflation in the past. Most notably, worker productivity is outpacing wage increases, and major union contract settlements are emphasizing job security more than wages. The United Auto Workers (UAW) leadership

is urging ratification of a contract with General Motors which contains a first year wage increase of only 2.25 percent. Wage settlements in the ten to fifteen percent range were common during the mid and late seventies when inflationary psychology gripped the nation.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE				
				Year Ending		2 Months Ending		1 Month Ending
	Aug 1983	July 1984	Aug 1984	July 1984	Aug 1984	July 1984	Aug 1984	Aug 1984
U.S. City Average	300.3	311.7	313.0	4.1	4.2	0.6	0.7	0.4
Seattle-Everett	--	314.3	--	3.4	--	0.4	--	--

RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE 1/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	Aug. 1984 (Prel.)	Jul. 1984 (Rev.)	Aug. 1983	Jul. 1983	Change Jul. 84 to Aug. 84	Change Aug. 83 to Aug. 84
RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	2,076.7	2,095.3	2,075.6	2,086.8	-18.6	+1.1
EMPLOYMENT	1,892.6	1,899.2	1,866.5	1,864.9	-6.6	+26.1
UNEMPLOYMENT	184.1	196.1	209.1	221.9	-12.0	-25.0
Percent of Labor Force	8.9	9.4	10.1	10.6	xxx	xxx

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 2/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	Aug. 1984 (Prel.)	Jul. 1984 (Rev.)	Aug. 1983	Jul. 1983	Change Jul. 84 to Aug. 84	Change Aug. 83 to Aug. 84
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	1,643.7	1,636.9	1,581.4	1,585.9	+6.8	+62.3
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	290.3	286.8	279.2	279.8	+3.5	+11.1
Durable Goods	199.3	197.9	189.4	193.1	+1.4	+9.9
Lumber & Wood Products	42.0	42.5	43.7	44.1	-0.5	-1.7
Furniture & Fixtures	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	-0.1	-0.1
Stone Clay & Glass Prod	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.2	+0.1	+0.2
Primary Metal Industries	13.1	13.2	12.8	12.9	-0.1	+0.3
Aluminum Prod.& Proc	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	0.0	0.0
Fabricated Metal Prod	9.9	9.9	10.0	4/ 9.4	0.0	-0.1
Machinery	28.1	27.8	26.1	25.7	+0.3	+2.0
Machinery exc. Elect	16.2	15.9	15.3	4/14.9	+0.3	+0.9
Electrical & Electronic	11.9	11.9	10.8	10.8	0.0	+1.1
Transportation Equipment	82.1	80.6	73.2	77.9	+1.5	+8.9
Aerospace	66.9	65.6	61.8	62.7	+1.3	+5.1
Other Transp. Equip	15.2	15.0	4/11.4	15.2	+0.2	+3.8
Instruments & Rel. Prod	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.5	0.0	+0.1
Misc. Manufacturing Ind.	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.1	+0.2	+0.3
Nondurable Goods	91.0	88.9	89.8	86.7	+2.1	+1.2
Food & Kindred Products	33.3	31.7	34.6	32.0	+1.6	-1.3
Canned & Preserved Foods	12.4	11.3	14.3	11.7	+1.1	-1.9
Apparel & Other Text.Prod.	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.8	+0.1	+0.3
Paper & Allied Products	16.9	16.9	16.0	16.1	0.0	+0.9
Printing & Publishing	16.5	16.4	15.9	15.7	+0.1	+0.6
Chemicals & Allied Prod	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.3	0.0	0.0
Other Nondurable Goods 3/	7.6	4/ 7.3	6.9	6.8	+0.3	+0.7
MINING & QUARRYING	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	80.7	79.1	78.1	4/76.4	+1.6	+2.6
TRANS.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	93.8	93.6	4/85.0	89.9	+0.2	+8.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	416.4	414.9	402.5	400.0	+1.5	+13.9
Wholesale Trade	106.7	106.4	103.6	102.9	+0.3	+3.1
Retail Trade	309.7	308.5	4/298.9	297.1	+1.2	+10.8
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE	94.8	94.9	93.9	93.6	-0.1	+0.9
SERVICES	346.7	344.4	331.8	330.5	+2.3	+14.9
GOVERNMENT	318.2	320.4	308.1	312.9	-2.2	+10.1
Federal	69.6	69.7	69.1	69.3	-0.1	+0.5
State & Local	248.6	250.7	239.0	243.6	-2.1	+9.6
Education	113.6	116.4	111.5	114.7	-2.8	+2.1
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES)	0.0	0.2	0.9	0.3	-0.2	-0.9

1/ These data are alternative estimates which are more nearly comparable to data released in previous years than are official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for Federal program purposes.

2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

3/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

4/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

September 26, 1984
Benchmark 1983

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	August 1984 Preliminary				July 1984 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total 1/	2,041,300	1,873,700	167,600	8.2	2,059,400	1,874,700	184,700	9.0
Bellingham SMSA	51,000	46,600	4,400	8.6	52,900	47,800	5,100	9.6
Bremerton SMSA	64,200	60,300	3,900	6.1	64,500	60,200	4,300	6.7
Olympia SMSA	58,400	53,300	5,100	8.7	58,700	52,900	5,800	9.9
Seattle-Everett SMSA	903,000	841,900	61,100	6.8	903,400	836,600	66,800	7.4
King County	712,400	665,300	47,100	6.6	712,200	661,100	51,100	7.2
Snohomish County	190,600	176,600	14,000	7.3	191,200	175,500	15,700	8.2
Spokane SMSA	151,200	139,900	11,300	7.5	151,800	139,600	12,200	8.0
Tacoma SMSA	188,500	171,800	16,700	8.9	190,700	171,900	18,800	9.9
Tri-Cities Area 2/	72,100	63,100	9,000	12.5	73,200	63,200	10,000	13.7
Yakima SMSA	91,100	80,500	10,600	11.6	94,000	82,100	11,900	12.7
Wenatchee Labor Area 2/	37,830	33,110	4,720	12.5	38,770	34,460	4,310	11.1
Adams	7,430	6,680	750	10.1	7,750	6,660	1,090	14.1
Asotin	8,290	7,700	590	7.1	8,350	7,690	660	7.9
Clallam	19,520	17,380	2,140	11.0	19,820	17,360	2,460	12.4
Clark	92,780	86,000	6,780	7.3	94,810	86,840	7,970	8.4
Columbia	1,730	1,560	170	9.8	1,790	1,590	200	11.2
Cowlitz	31,340	27,800	3,540	11.3	31,730	27,900	3,830	12.1
Ferry	2,610	2,280	330	12.6	2,660	2,300	360	13.5
Garfield	1,300	1,230	70	5.4	1,310	1,220	90	6.9
Grant	24,070	21,430	2,640	11.0	24,650	21,080	3,570	14.5
Grays Harbor	29,190	25,260	3,930	13.5	29,330	25,530	3,800	13.0
Island	15,440	14,370	1,070	6.9	15,520	14,360	1,160	7.5
Jefferson	6,970	6,490	480	6.9	6,920	6,350	570	8.2
Kittitas	10,770	9,760	1,010	9.4	10,750	9,540	1,210	11.3
Klickitat	7,280	6,370	910	12.5	7,110	6,310	800	11.3
Lewis	24,010	21,280	2,730	11.4	24,750	21,670	3,080	12.4
Lincoln	4,790	4,660	130	2.7	4,800	4,670	130	2.7
Mason	11,150	10,270	880	7.9	11,290	10,270	1,020	9.0
Okanogan	17,170	14,420	2,750	16.0	17,070	14,230	2,840	16.6
Pacific	7,630	6,430	1,200	15.7	7,390	6,360	1,030	13.9
Pend Oreille	4,190	3,710	480	11.5	4,240	3,700	540	12.7
San Juan	4,470	4,310	160	3.6	4,380	4,200	180	4.1
Skagit	34,840	30,950	3,890	11.2	37,400	32,860	4,540	12.1
Skamania	2,790	2,400	390	14.0	2,800	2,390	410	14.6
Stevens	12,230	10,790	1,440	11.8	12,240	10,690	1,550	12.7
Wahkiakum	1,420	1,260	160	11.3	1,390	1,280	110	7.9
Walla Walla	25,590	23,890	1,700	6.6	26,360	24,460	1,900	7.2
Whitman	15,070	14,620	450	3.0	14,970	14,510	460	3.1

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.

2/ Includes Benton and Franklin counties.

3/ Includes Chelan and Douglas counties.

Washington State
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Date: September 26, 1984
Benchmark: 1983

John Spellman, Governor
Norward J. Brooks, Commissioner

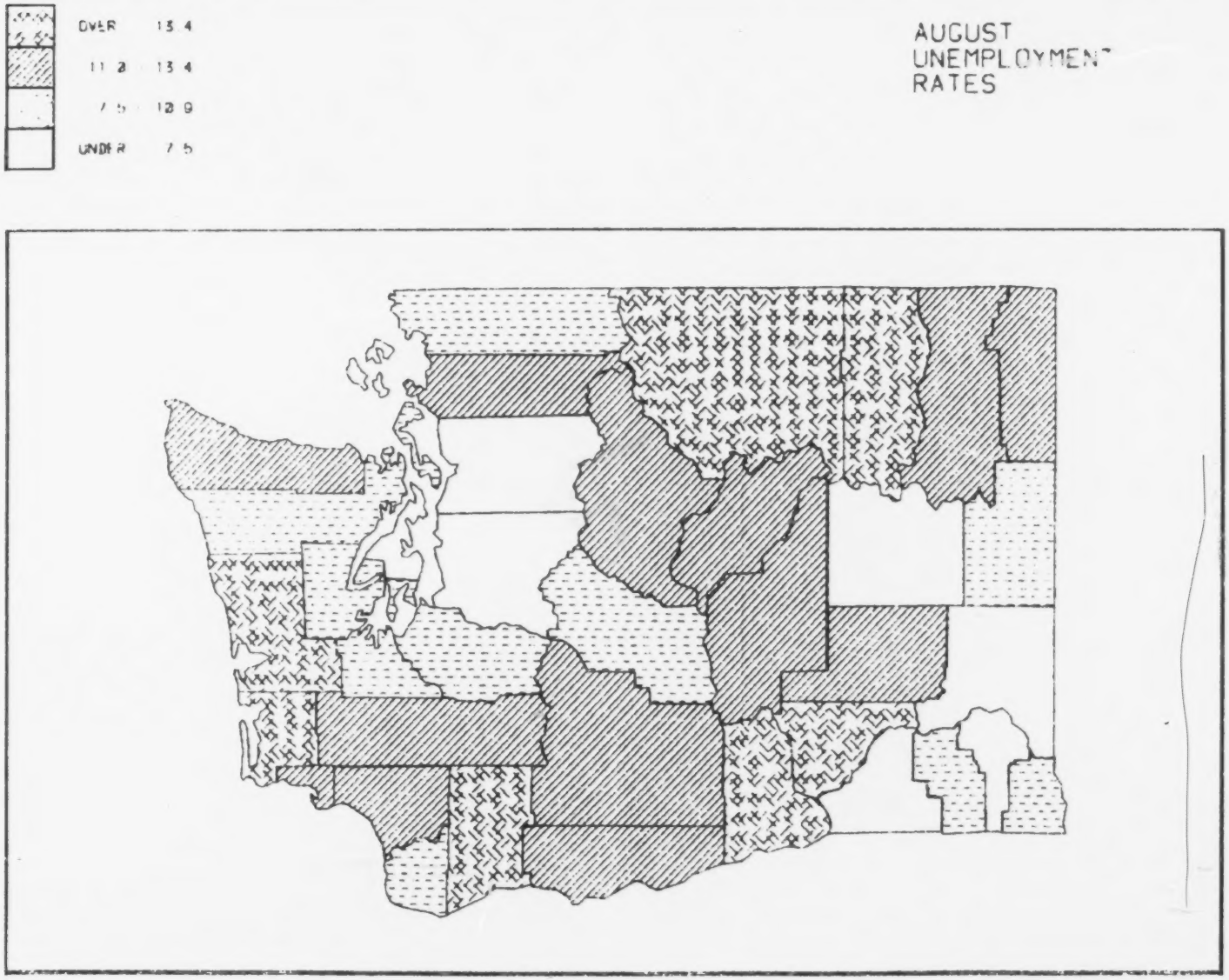
	August 1984 Preliminary 3/				July 1984 Revised				August 1983 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Washington State Total 1/	2,076,700	1,892,600	184,100	8.9	2,095,300	1,899,200	196,100	9.4	2,075,600	1,866,500	209,100	10.1
Bellingham SMSA	51,900	47,100	4,800	9.2	53,800	48,400	5,400	10.0	50,200	45,600	4,600	9.2
Bremerton SMSA	65,200	60,900	4,300	6.6	65,600	6,1000	4,600	7.0	65,300	60,500	4,800	7.4
Olympia SMSA	59,400	53,800	5,600	9.4	59,800	53,600	6,200	10.4	59,200	52,700	6,500	11.0
Seattle-Everett SMSA	917,500	850,400	67,100	7.3	918,400	847,500	70,900	7.7	907,600	821,900	85,700	9.4
Spokane SMSA	153,700	141,300	12,400	8.1	154,300	141,400	12,900	8.4	154,500	141,100	13,400	8.7
Tacoma SMSA	191,800	173,500	18,300	9.5	194,200	174,200	20,000	10.3	190,300	169,200	21,100	11.1
Tri-Cities Area 2/	73,600	63,700	9,900	13.5	74,600	64,000	10,600	14.2	79,000	68,600	10,400	13.2
Yakima SMSA	93,000	81,300	11,700	12.6	95,800	83,200	12,600	13.2	91,500	80,200	11,300	12.3
Wenatchee Labor Area 2/	38,620	33,440	5,180	13.4	39,490	34,910	4,580	11.6	38,240	32,830	5,410	14.1
Adams	7,570	6,740	830	11.0	7,890	6,740	1,150	14.6	8,390	7,210	1,180	14.1
Asotin	8,420	7,770	650	7.7	8,490	7,790	700	8.2	8,910	8,200	710	8.0
Clallam	19,910	17,560	2,350	11.8	20,210	17,590	2,620	13.0	20,160	17,900	2,260	11.2
Clark	94,300	86,860	7,440	7.9	96,430	87,970	8,460	8.8	94,180	85,890	8,290	8.8
Columbia	1,760	1,580	180	10.2	1,820	1,610	210	11.5	1,790	1,600	190	10.6
Cowlitz	31,960	28,080	3,880	12.1	32,330	28,270	4,060	12.6	33,220	29,080	4,140	12.5
Ferry	2,660	2,300	360	13.5	2,710	2,330	380	14.0	2,640	2,300	340	12.9
Garfield	1,320	1,240	80	6.1	1,320	1,230	90	6.8	1,340	1,260	80	6.0
Grant	24,550	21,650	2,900	11.8	25,140	21,350	3,790	15.1	26,070	22,540	3,530	13.5
Grays Harbor	29,830	25,510	4,320	14.5	29,890	25,860	4,030	13.5	31,130	27,240	3,890	12.5
Island	15,690	14,510	1,180	7.5	15,770	14,540	1,230	7.8	15,960	14,660	1,300	8.1
Jefferson	7,080	6,550	530	7.5	7,040	6,430	610	8.7	7,070	6,470	600	8.5
Kittitas	10,970	9,860	1,110	10.1	10,940	9,660	1,280	11.7	11,010	9,950	1,060	9.6
Klickitat	7,440	6,440	1,000	13.4	7,240	6,390	850	11.7	7,200	6,380	820	11.4
Lewis	24,500	21,500	3,000	12.2	25,220	21,950	3,270	13.0	24,770	21,740	3,030	12.2
Lincoln	4,850	4,710	140	2.9	4,870	4,730	140	2.9	4,900	4,720	180	3.7
Mason	11,340	10,370	970	8.6	11,490	10,410	1,080	9.4	11,130	9,950	1,180	10.6
Okanogan	17,590	14,560	3,030	17.2	17,430	14,420	3,010	17.3	17,340	14,390	2,950	17.0
Pacific	7,820	6,500	1,320	16.9	7,530	6,440	1,090	14.5	7,770	6,730	1,040	13.4
Pend Oreille	4,270	3,750	520	12.2	4,310	3,740	570	13.2	3,910	3,310	600	15.3
San Juan	4,530	4,350	180	4.0	4,450	4,260	190	4.3	4,770	4,530	240	5.0
Skagit	35,530	31,260	4,270	12.0	38,100	33,280	4,820	12.7	37,130	33,490	3,640	9.8
Skamania	2,850	2,420	430	15.1	2,860	2,420	440	15.4	3,120	2,690	430	13.8
Stevens	12,490	10,900	1,590	12.7	12,480	10,830	1,650	13.2	12,100	10,480	1,620	13.4
Wahkiakum	1,440	1,270	170	11.8	1,410	1,300	110	7.8	1,400	1,240	160	11.4
Walla Walla	26,000	24,130	1,870	7.2	26,790	24,770	2,020	7.5	26,580	24,670	1,910	7.2
Whitman	15,250	14,760	490	3.2	15,190	14,700	490	3.2	15,890	15,330	560	3.5

1/ Detail may not add due to rounding.

2/ The Tri-Cities area includes all of Benton and Franklin Counties. The Wenatchee Labor Area includes all of Chelan and Douglas counties.

3/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.

Research and Analysis Branch


OVER 13.4
11.8 13.4
7.5 12.9
UNDER 7.5
AUGUST
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATES